

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-32 are pending in the application. Claims 1-5, 9-13, 16-21, 25-29, and 32 are rejected as anticipated by Morganstein et al. (U.S. 6,205,204); and the Examiner considers that claims 6-8, 14-15, 22-24, 30 and 31 would be allowable if rewritten to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim Amendments

Independent claim 1 is amended to include all the limitations of original claim 6 depending on claim 1; independent claim 17 is amended to include all the limitations of original claim 22 depending on claim 17; and claims 6 and 22 are canceled. In addition, claims 7 and 14 are each amended to change dependency from canceled claim 6 to amended independent claim 1; and claims 23 and 30 are each amended to change dependency from canceled claim 22 to amended independent claim 17.

Support for the foregoing amendment is found throughout the specification and in the claims as detailed above. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-5, 9-13, 16-21, 25-29, and 32 stand rejected as anticipated by Morganstein et al. (U.S. 6,205,204). The rejection is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

The cancellation of claims 6 and 22 renders the rejection of those claims moot. Further, the amendment of independent claim 1 to include all the limitations of canceled claim 6 and the amendment of claim 17 to include all the limitations of canceled claim 22 is believed to overcome the rejection of independent claims 1 and 17. Likewise, the foregoing amendment is believed to overcome the rejection of claims 2-5 and 7-16 that depend on amended claim 1, and claims 18-21 and 23-32 that depend on amended claim 17, and which recite further specific elements that have no reasonable correspondence with the references.

Allowable Claims

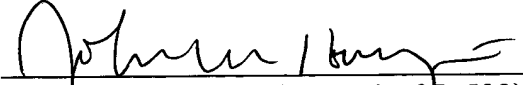
In response to the Examiner's statement that claims 6-8, 14-15, 22-24, 30 and 31 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, the foregoing amendment of independent claim 1 to include all the limitations of original claim 6 depending on claim 1; the amendment of independent claim 17 to include all the limitations of original claim 22 depending on claim 1; the cancellation of claims 6 and 22; the change of dependency in claims 7 and 14 from canceled claim 6 to amended independent claim 1; and the change of dependency in claims 23 and 30 from canceled claim 22 to amended independent claim 17 are believed to overcome the Examiner's objection.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendment and these remarks, each of the claims remaining in the application is in condition for immediate allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection and to pass the application to issue. The Examiner is respectfully invited to telephone the undersigned at (336) 607-7318 to discuss any questions relating to the application.

Respectfully submitted,

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